



*United States Attorney  
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**U.S. ANNOUNCES NUMEROUS ARRESTS OF GUN AND DRUG  
TRAFFICKERS IN CO-OP CITY IN THE BRONX**

MICHAEL J. GARCIA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, WILLIAM MCMAHON, the Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives ("ATF") in New York, and RAYMOND W. KELLY, the Police Commissioner of the City of New York, announced today that 24 defendants have been charged in Manhattan federal court with various gun and narcotics trafficking offenses.

The takedown announced today is a part of "Operation Double Trouble," an 11 month-long law enforcement investigation into gun and drug trafficking and violence in Co-op City, a 50,000-person residential community located in the Bronx. The operation was led by the ATF and the New York City Police Department ("NYPD"), with assistance from the United States Drug Enforcement Administration ("DEA"). The charges and today's arrests were the result of close coordination among the ATF, the NYPD, the DEA, the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, and the United States Marshals Service. Sixteen of the defendants were arrested earlier today. Four defendants were previously arrested.

The defendants are charged in 11 separate complaints and three indictments. The complaints and the indictments charge the defendants variously with gun possession, gun trafficking, conspiring to distribute crack and cocaine, and brandishing and discharging guns in furtherance of drug trafficking offenses.

Three of the complaints charge defendants in connection with shootings. One of the defendants was arrested federally on November 3rd in connection with his having pulled a gun on a police officer. During the investigation, over 20 guns and numerous rounds of ammunition were seized.

If convicted, the defendants face maximum sentences of between ten years and life in prison. Fourteen of the defendants face mandatory minimum sentences ranging from five years to 35 years. Those defendants apprehended earlier today will be presented in Manhattan federal court, 500 Pearl Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, later this afternoon.

Mr. GARCIA praised the collective efforts of the ATF, the NYPD, and the DEA and thanked the United States Marshals Service for their assistance in executing today's arrests.

Assistant United States Attorneys CHRISTOPHER L. GARCIA and ANJAN SAHNI are in charge of the prosecution.

The charges contained in the complaints and indictments are merely accusations and the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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